

THE KWAJALEIN HOURGLASS

Volume 40, Number 87

Tuesday, October 31, 2000

U.S. Army Kwajalein Atoll, Republic of the Marshall Islands



Happy Halloween

Holiday haunts homes islandwide

By KW Hillis
Feature Writer

Permeating the islands with diabolical laughter and moans, goblins, ghosts and bumblebees on foot and by bike roamed Kwajalein and Roi-Namur this past weekend.

Movie characters from *Star Wars* and *The Matrix* rubbed elbows with hula girls, Betsy Ross and a laundry basket at the annual Costume Contest Saturday night at the Multi-Purpose room.

"[John and I] always have a ball," said Barbara Wallace, one of six judges. "It was hard [to pick winners], in fact there were three ties throughout the evening. When the kiddos get to a certain age they have a real understanding of their own characters."

Although the MP room was packed
(See NIGHTS, page 7)



(Photo by KW Hillis)

This Haunted House visitor is just about to be scared out of his wits by the undead. Vampire Vince Sandoval spooked his share of victims on Sunday and Monday nights at the CRC.

Tales of specters and ghosts abound around atoll

By Julie Balter
Guest Writer

Winning the battle for the Marshall Islands became a turning point for the Americans against the Japanese during World War II. The barrages of artillery fire left behind scars that can be seen today on the Japanese bunkers remaining in the Kwajalein Atoll. The lagoon, also, tells its story with war ships and fighter planes buried within its depth. Memorials to those fallen, both Japanese and American, have been erected in honor of the war dead. Accounts of Carlson's Raiders and the story of the nine captured Marines have left an indelible impression upon this tiny island in the Central Pacific, with an apparent grisly end befalling those nine valiant men. Marshallese survivors tell tales of their experiences during the hail of gunfire and bombs.

The tangible signs of the great battles that took place 56 years ago are numerous. However, there are other imprints of battles that are not so easily seen: echoes of fallen warriors who cannot or will not admit they are dead. There are disembodied souls that wander aimlessly, searching for something they will never find — a return to the life they once knew.

Many people know someone who has experienced a specter on Kwajalein or Roi-Namur, while others carry their own tale of terror. Rumors of sentries pacing, sounds of soldiers marching or silhouettes in shadows are continuous reminders of the conflict that brought devastation and mayhem to the Marshall Islands so many years ago. Sightings of Japanese soldiers abound. Though late night is favored for ghostly haunts, early morning sometimes serve the ghostly ghoul's purpose.

(See FALLEN, page 3)

Letters to the Editor

A final thought on graffiti punishment

Editor's Note: The following letter came in early last week, before USAKA/KMR announced a response to local graffiti incidents Saturday. (See related story on page 3.)

Recently, I was alarmed to read a request in the *Hourglass* to close the skate park for one month in response to some graffiti. While on the surface, the issue at hand appears to be graffiti, I feel the problem is much deeper.

Skateboarding has long been subject to intense prejudice. The counter-culture clothing and the youth of skaters make these athletes an easy target. However, with the construction of the skate park, the community took a step forward in reaching out to skaters, and also recognizing a legitimate sport. Skateboarding is filled with talented, skilled athletes like any other sport. Tony Hawk, skating's biggest celebrity, is an incredible competitor and a model citizen. He conducts charity work, cares for his wife and children and carries himself with poise and confidence.

Calls for retaliation against all the athletes who skateboard — by clos-

ing the skate park — demonstrate not only an ignorance of skateboarding as a legitimate sport but highlights an unjust assumption that all skaters are alike. Common sense suggests that only a few individuals were involved with the graffiti, and that the proposed solution attacks not the problem of graffiti, but the perceived problem of "skateboarders." This type of blanket accusation is unfair. In addition, it perpetuates an "us versus them" mentality. Is that what we want to be as a community? I am in no way supporting graffiti. If the perpetrators are caught, they should be punished. However, as responsible adults, we must strive to be fair, and avoid at all costs remonstrating entire groups for the actions of a few individuals.

C.J. Sorenson

also become contagious.

To start the ball rolling, when I acquitted my travel here I was taken care of by an extremely friendly, pleasant and capable lady by the name of Karen Dunn. She made me feel very welcome. I have received and continue to receive extremely fantastic support from our IT representative Dave Robinson. The high degree of cooperation from Tino Salvador, COOM Shop supervisor, goes without saying. I thank you all very much for your support, cooperation and patience. The two Marshallese girls in our office, Monica Pedro and Dianne Junious, are a delight to work with, and I thank you for your friendship. It has overridden the not-so-great aspects and made my tenure here very enjoyable.

S. Kay

Spread thanks, too

I arrived on island five months ago, and your paper has encouraged people to voice their opinion and I would like to do that, but on the flip side of what I have read recently. Like the saying goes, "a smile and a laugh are contagious." I would like to encourage PRAISE so that it may

Thanks for biscuits

I want to thank the manager and the staff at the bakery for last Saturday morning's (Oct. 21) special on biscuits. They were delicious, the best I've tasted here on Kwajalein for two years! Thanks so much for good food, reasonable prices and excellent service.

Sgt. Linda Wilson

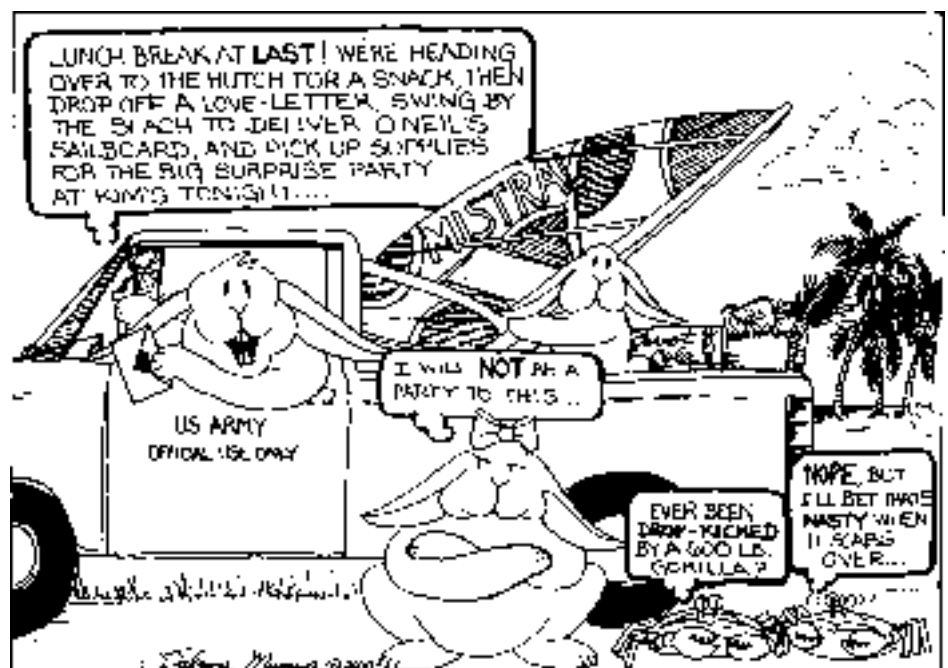
The Kwajalein Hourglass

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The *Hourglass* is named for the insignia of the U.S. Army 7th Infantry Division, which liberated the island from the forces of Imperial Japan on Feb 4, 1944.

The Kwajalein *Hourglass* is an authorized publication for military personnel, federal employees, contractor workers and their families assigned to USAKA/KMR. Contents of the *Hourglass* are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or USAKA/KMR. It is published Tuesdays and Fridays using a network printer by Raytheon Range Systems Engineering editorial staff, P.O. Box 23, APO AP 96555. Phone: Autovon 254-3539; local 53539. Printed circulation: 2,300

Buckminster and Friends — By Sabrina Mumma



USAKA/KMR reinforces zero-tolerance for drugs, graffiti

From Staff Reports

A recent employment termination of a second Raytheon employee for apparent drug use and a second graffiti incident in three weeks have sparked fierce interest by USAKA/KMR command.

A Raytheon employee left island today after testing positive during a routine drug screening, according to Dick Lupton, RSE Program Support manager. The employee, who later admitted using marijuana, is the third man in six weeks terminated or administratively barred by the USAKA/KMR command for alleged drug use.

"We will continue to weed out illegal drug use," said Col. Curtis L. Wrenn Jr., USAKA/KMR commander.

Meanwhile a second graffiti incident has ignited policy changes.

Between 9 p.m. Friday and 7:30 a.m. Saturday, someone spray-painted vulgar epithets on the walls of the CRC. Three weeks ago, someone, not necessarily the same person, painted on signs at the Mini-Mall.

"The new policy is zero tolerance," Wrenn said. The Kwajalein Police Department has been directed to step up patrols in housing areas, and, although each case is handled individually, persons caught defacing property are subject to a range of criminal and administrative sanctions that may include a magistrate court trial and an administrative bar from USAKA/KMR.

Fallen warriors, deceased nurses haunt atoll residents ...

(From page 1)

One Kwajalein resident, while preparing for work one morning, observed the reflection of a Japanese man standing in her bedroom doorway.

"I could see him as clearly as I'm seeing you," she recounted. "He stood about 5 foot 3 or 4 inches, with salt and pepper gray hair. He was wearing fatigues with a black belt and black boots, and he also carried a rifle. He had a dazed and confused look on his face as if he was lost. I started to yell at him, 'how did you get into my house!' but as I turned, I realized no one was there.

"I never felt afraid," she continued. "Only angry when I saw the reflection. I wondered how this man got into my house without me hearing him. Suddenly, it dawned on me that I had witnessed a ghost!"

It seems that sounds without bodies are a favorite tool of Kwajalein's ghostly occupants. A Roi resident testified that on one Wednesday night as he rode his bicycle home from the terminal, he heard the creak of another bicycle behind him. Since he was taking his time riding home, the creaking sound of the second bicycle crept up on him. Feeling the presence of another bicyclist, he turned to issue a greeting. However, he realized no one was there. At the same time, the creaking bicycle ceased.

Perhaps the greatest joy an entity can experience is scaring the socks off the living, and of course, hospitals would be a favorite place for ethereal hauntings. People pass from this world into the next on a daily basis.

Kwajalein Hospital is no exception. About one year ago, Steve Shrum was working the late shift at the hospital.

"I was sitting in the Immunization Room reading a book when I heard the sliding glass doors open, then close, and the sound of flat leather sandals began walking my direction. I quickly set my book down and turned to greet the person. For some reason, I fully expected a woman to walk around the corner because the footsteps sounded like a woman's. I started to say, 'may I help you?' as the footsteps rounded the corner, but the footsteps walked right by the doorway and down the hall — but no one was attached to the footsteps!"

It seems that World War II soldiers are not the only entities to haunt the island. In fact, World War II battles have not been the only occurrence in which lives have been tragically lost. On the east end of Kwajalein, a white cross was erected to commemorate the lives of several nurses who were killed shortly after the war. The nurses, who were flying to Kwajalein with vials of life-saving blood, were victims of a crash landing on the Kwajalein runway, but it was not the crash landing that caused their demise. According to legend, the plane landed in the ocean, breaking the vials of blood. The blood drew a feeding frenzy of sharks. As survivors huddled together on the wings of the plane waiting for rescue, sharks systematically slithered onto the airplane wings, knocking nurses off one at a time, ripping them to shreds. By

the time the rescue mission reached the downed airplane, only a couple of nurses had survived. At least one of the nurses who lost her life that tragic night is reported to walk the runway.

The most common area for apparitional sightings is around the north end of the island, especially near the Japanese cemetery and around the photo lab. Sue Rosoff claims a "Samurai" ghost inhabits the photo lab.

"Sometimes, the computers go wacko for apparently no reason," Rosoff said. She also recounts an instance last year when she and her co-workers were trying to duplicate post-World War II images of Japanese. Specific photographs would not go through the imaging process or go through and process to 90 percent then evaporate. Every effort made to print those photographs failed.

Perhaps the most gruesome tale is the ghost of the headless soldier said to haunt that area. Though this apparition is reported to be Japanese, the lack of a head indicates this spirit could be one of the missing nine Marines reportedly beheaded during World War II. In fact, rumors state anyone brave enough to stay the night around the cemetery will see the headless soldier or any number of other spirits said to haunt that end of the island.

To those who are skeptical of the tales given, visit the cemetery on the north side this night of All Hallows Eve. Perhaps our friends from the other realm will grace you with their presence and you can experience an impression of the past.

Costume Contest



Infants

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. Nicholas Sarmanian | Gold Medalist |
| 2. Claire Cheatham | Pirate |
| 3. Sasako Brady | Hula Dancer |

1-2-year-olds

- | | |
|----------------|------------|
| 1. Daniel Phan | Peter Pan |
| 2. Kelly Lopez | Bam Bam |
| 3. Amelia Kemp | Bumble Bee |

3-4-year-olds

- | | |
|-------------------|---------|
| 1. Austin Butler | Elvis |
| 2. Amy Comeau | Mermaid |
| 3. Roselia Lokjar | Flapper |

5-year-olds- Kindergarten

- | | |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1. Kori Dowell | Dorothy |
| 2. Josh Lopez | Storm Trooper |
| 3. Luke Shattuck | Knight |

- | | |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Shawn Brady | 1st G |
| 2. Sam Jones | |
| 3. Sarah Greenbaum | 2nd G |

- | | |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Carrie West | |
| 2. Hannah Vining | |
| 3. Aubrey Sandborn | 3rd G |

- | |
|-------------------|
| 1. Kelly Seitz |
| 2. Anne Schubach |
| 3. Clarissa Brady |

Happy Halloween



grade
Clown
Anakin Skywalker
Princess

grade
It's a Boy
Bat
Esmerelda

grade
Wicked Witch
Sorcerer
Hula Dancer

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 4th Grade | |
| 1. Kyle Hardin | Old Man |
| 2. Ryan Abouzahra | Diddy Kong |
| 3. Michael Hillman | Farmer |
| 5th - 6th Grade | |
| 1. Julie Vining | Horse and Rider |
| 2. Justin DeCoster | Pay Phone |
| 3. Risa Khamsi | Movie Star |
| 7th-12th Grade | |
| 1. James Hillman | Laundry Basket |
| 2. Brendan Greene | The Matrix |
| and Jessika Jacobs | |
| 3. Brittany Bezzek | Deady's Little Girl |
| Additional Group | |
| 1. Emma Peacock | Betsy Ross |
| 2. Evie Six | Princess |
| 3. Jeffery Beckler | Goku |



(Photo by KW Hillis)

Tom Tesch handily removed an "eye" from a "patient" in the diabolical haunted hospital. Twenty hospital staff volunteers designed, set up and manned the ghoulish clinic in the maze.



(Photo by KW Hillis)

Pirate Elizabeth Brown explains jokingly that she has only lost a "few children" during her stint as guide at the Haunted House. Over 700 visitors enjoyed the annual event, hosted by more than 60 volunteers and Community Activities staff.



(Photo by KW Hillis)

Three heads are better than one, unless they're all on the same body. Jane Cassel, John Janikowski and Rebecca Wallace startle visitors in the grisly operating room.



(Photo by Darren Wilburn)

Roi resident Kara Cooper portrays "Elvira meets Morticia."

Nights filled with laughter, shrieks ...

(From page 1)

with infants to 12th graders and the noise level was high, "everyone was very well behaved. Community Activities did a great job," Wallace added.

The Halloween Party at The Outrigger on Roi saw a hairy Hawaiian dancer and a very warm snowboarder along with assorted ghosts and goblins on Saturday night.

"The bartenders at The Outrigger put it all together," said Karin Robas, Community Activities Superintendent. "We had Latitude 8 come up and play. They're a great group and it was a big party — nonstop dancing."

On Kwaj Sunday night, amidst downpours, bands of clowns, ghouls and ghosts, followed discreetly by an adult, splashed from trailer to house dragging bags of booty behind them. At each door, a strong or scared "Trick or Treat" was pronounced by the bravest of each marauding band.

Children nervously lined up outside the CRC, transformed into the Haunted House both Sunday and Monday nights.

Inside, awaiting their victims in addition to goblins and monsters, four rooms were hosted by groups vying for two cash prizes. The rooms were voted on by each visitor to the Haunted House.

First place winner "McRonald's Restaurant," hosted by the eighth grade, welcomed visitors into a grisly fast food kitchen. Protesting "hamburger meat" was ground into disgusting inedible food as disembodied parts tempted tastebuds.

The Haunted Hospital took second place. Hosted by Kwajalein Hospital staff members, the demented, haunted hospital "doctors and nurses" performed three-headed transplants and made hospital meals out of the leftover parts.

In the Vampire Room, hosted by Julie Balter and Vince Sandoval, vampires looked longingly at each neck that passed through.

The Pirate Room, hosted by Chris Robbins, made visitors' skin jump with loud noises and an atrocious monster.

Brave guides escorted their cowering charges through the murky maze, pointing out some points of interest — an enormous, hairy spider and a mirror that suddenly came alive with a shriveled green witch's face.

"It was a lot of fun again this year, thanks to the volunteers," said Steve Snider, Entertainment Services manager. "Start planning your rooms for next year."

Gilligan's held its Halloween Bash Sunday night.

The crowd danced to live band The Fat Guy Downstairs and DJ Rich Feagler way into the night.

Sonny and Cher won best couple contest, and a Hooters "girl," with a very low voice, won the singles' contest, edging out a realistic Mr. Hanky, from the TV show South Park.



(Photo by Darren Wilburn)

Roi residents, from left, Michelle Lanier, Ricky Bishop and Steve Dison dance to tunes, courtesy of Latitude 8, at the Outrigger Bar during the annual Halloween bash.



(Photo by KW Hillis)

Jim Watson is a little too wrapped up in his work as a mummy.

See you at the movies!**Saturday****Dinosaur (New Release, G)**

Walt Disney Pictures redefines computer animation by combining live-action backgrounds with computer-generated animals. A baby dinosaur, Aladar (voiced by D.B. Sweeney) is raised by a family of lemurs. Aladar tries to save his adopted family from a flaming meteor. (82 minutes)
Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Shaft (New Release, R)

A new spin is put on one of the key "blaxploitation" films of the 1970s. John Shaft (Samuel L. Jackson) is a street-smart detective who is assigned to solve a racially motivated murder case while trying to decide if he should quit and open a detective agency. (Vanessa L. Williams, Richard Roundtree) (98 minutes)
Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.

The Cider House Rules (New Release, PG-13)

Moral principles involving abortion and love weave through this screen adaptation of John Irving's 1985 novel, set during World War II. Homer Wells (Tobey Maguire) refuses to help his mentor, Dr. Wilbur Larch (Michael Caine), perform abortions in his medical practice. Wells is faced with changing his moral principles. (131 minutes)
Tradewinds Theater, 8 p.m.

Sunday**Monster on the Campus (Classic, 1958)**

There are cataclysmic consequences when a transmogrifying dragonfly bites a prehistoric fish from Madagascar. The now gigantic fish causes other creatures to revert to their primal forms — a dog becomes a wolf, and a professor becomes a raging Neanderthal. (76 minutes, B&W)
Richardson Theater, 7:30 p.m.

The Cider House Rules (New Release, PG-13)

Richardson Theater, 9:30 p.m.

Shaft (New Release, R)

Tradewinds Theater, 7:30 p.m.

Dinosaur (New Release, G)

Tradewinds Theater, 9:30 p.m.

Monday**Dinosaur (New Release, G)**

Richardson Theater 7:30 p.m.

Shaft (New Release, R)

Yokwe Yuk Theater, 8 p.m.



(Photo by KW Hillis)

Above: Katie Rice, 3½, dispenses more ammunition to coat her mother, Debbie's, legs during the Shaving Cream Social.

At right: Emily Baker just wanted to take a picture, but became a target herself, as Keith Brady and a friend spray her with shaving cream.

(Photos by KW Hillis)



WEATHER

Courtesy of Aeromet

Tonight: Cloudy with widely scattered showers.

Winds: East-northeast to east-southeast at 8 to 14 knots, with higher gusts near showers.
Tomorrow: Partly to mostly cloudy with widely scattered showers.

Winds: East-northeast at 6 to 12 knots, with higher gusts near showers.

Temperature: Tonight's low 78°
Tomorrow's high 85°

October rain total: 13.13"

Annual rain total: 79.50"

Annual deviation: -3.45"

Call 54700 for continuously updated forecasts and sea conditions.

Forecasts available online: www.kmr-wx.com



Sun • Moon • Tides



	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set	High Tide	Low Tide
Tuesday October 31	0637/1827	0941/2137	0555, 4.6' 1809, 5.4'	1200, 0.8' 2348, 1.0'
Wednesday November 1	0637/1827	1031/2226	0624, 4.3' 1839, 5.0'	1232, 1.2' 1214, 1.4'
Thursday November 2	0638/1827	1121/2315	0655, 3.9' 1912, 4.6'	0107, 1.6' 1340, 1.8'
Friday November 3	0638/1826	1209/	0734, 3.4' 1956, 4.2'	0150, 2.0' 1310, 2.2'